

**143-40 Roosevelt Avenue
Flushing, NY 11354-6145**

January 24, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

There has been a recent settlement to the antitrust case brought against Microsoft. This agreement came as a result of round-the-clock negotiations, with both sides agreeing to settle this dispute. I want to give my support to this agreement. Microsoft has been chastised and has opened the company significantly to competition. It is important for us to put this matter in the past since it has not only been decided in a U.S. District Court, but by the parties as well. I do not believe further litigation will be beneficial to our economy or country.

As I understand it, Microsoft has agreed to a great many terms that extend well beyond the issues raised in the initial suit. Microsoft has agreed to allow computers to ship non-Microsoft products to customers; Microsoft has agreed to help companies achieve a greater degree of reliability with regard to their networking software; Microsoft has agreed to design future versions of Microsoft with a mechanism to make it easier to promote non-Microsoft software.

I urge you to give your support to this agreement. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Pauline Schwager